

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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AN INCOME TAX.

It Must Come, And Even The Eastern Gold-Standard Press Realizes That It Must.



RESOLUTIONS have been passed and almost without opposition, in many of the legislatures of the Western, Southern and Central States during their sessions the past few months, favoring a national income tax. Few men the whole country over have the temerity to say that such a tax would be an injustice, and we firmly believe that nine out of every ten voters of the whole United States would uphold it at the polls were it submitted to a vote devoid of political complications. It will be an issue of the next presidential campaign, and we do not believe the wealth of the land will be able to defeat a second time the party advocating it. The following editorial in a recent issue of the New York World, concerning, or based upon the resolution that passed the Kansas legislature, would indicate that even in the enemy's camp the justness of an income tax—even in a time of peace—is acknowledged. The World says:

The movement in the Kansas legislature for the adoption of a resolution asking congress to "submit a proposition to change the constitution so as to permit the taxation of inordinate wealth" will be met by the usual sneers and jeers in the centers of wealth. It would be well, however, for the wealthy classes to remember that at the last election 6,500,000 citizens voted for a platform which demanded an income tax, and even went to the foolish and dangerous limit of proposing to pack the supreme court of the United States in order to secure a reversal of its decision against this tax.

Before abusing large masses of citizens for favoring an income tax would it not be well to try, in imagination, to "put yourself in their place?"

Suppose Mr. Millionaire, that you were one of the hundreds of thousands of farmers in Kansas and elsewhere who are barely able "to make both ends meet" year after year, though toiling hard and living with rigid economy that only poverty can justify. Suppose that your ambition has been narrowed to keeping your family on top of the earth and paying your taxes and the interest on your mortgage. Suppose you had done a little better, as many of the farmers have done, and had by good management or good luck saved a few hundred or a few thousand dollars, or suppose you were a mechanic or a mill operative or day laborer, even worse off in many ways than the average farmer.

And suppose that the whole burden of taxation for the support of the federal government—aggregating the enormous amount of a billion dollars every two years—were placed as now, upon the consumption of the country, the every-day necessities of the people. Under this system taxation is unequal and therefore unjust. It takes no account of ability to pay or benefits received. The farmer's or the mechanic's or the small salaried man's family of five pays almost as much per capita for the support of the federal government as does the millionaire's family of five.

Is this right? Is it equal? Is it democratic?

If you Mr. Multimillionaire, were one of these plain, hard-working people, would you think that "inordinate wealth"—incomes that warrant \$50,000 a year and \$100,000 or \$200,000 a year for living expenses—ought to pay something towards the support of the federal government that protects and conserves such wealth? Wouldn't you? When you rail at these men as "anarchists" or "socialists" try to put yourself in their place.

Iowa ain't so Godforsaken, after all. Most of the towns in that state went democratic at the recent city elections.

UNTIL IT IS SETTLED RIGHT.

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

However the battle is ended,
Though proudly the victor comes,
With fluttering flags and prancing nags
And echoing roll of drums.
Still Truth proclaims this motto,
In letters of living light:
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

Though the heel of the strong oppressor
May grind the weak in dust,
And the voices of Fame, with one acclaim,
May call him great and just,
Let those who applaud take warning
And keep this motto in sight:
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

Let those who have failed take courage
Tho' the enemy seems to have won,
Tho' his ranks are strong if he be wrong
The battle is not yet done
For sure as the morning follows
The darkest hour of night,
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

O man bowed down with labor!
O woman young, yet old!
O heart oppressed in the toilers' breast,
Crushed by the power of gold!
Keep on with your weary battle
Against triumphant might;
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

The Japan Story Not True.

The announcement that Japan had adopted the single gold standard stimulated a flow of enthusiastic editorials in the republican papers. Bright pictures were painted of the happy time when all the nations of the earth should forget silver, and worship continually at the shrine of gold. Monday's press dispatches knocked the foundation from under these delightful prophecies. Japan has not adopted the gold standard. The report to that effect was based on the fact that a measure to stop the free coinage of silver was introduced in one house of the Japanese congress. It is very much as though one of Senator Peffer's bills providing for the printing of ever so many billions of irredeemable silk-paper money had been sent over the world masquerading as a law actually passed by the American congress and signed by the president.—Eureka Messenger.

The School Text-Book Law.

Kansas people who are so fortunate as to have children in the public schools—and most of us are—can congratulate themselves upon a saving of a good many dollars a year under the new school book law. The maximum prices which will be paid for school books under the provisions of the new law are as follows:

For the spelling book, 10 cents; first reader, 10 cents; second reader, 17 cents; third reader, 23 cents; fourth reader, 30 cents; fifth reader, 40 cents; mental arithmetic, 20 cents; intermediate arithmetic, 25 cents; complete arithmetic, 35 cents; elementary geography, 30 cents; complete geography, 75 cents; English grammar, elementary, 20 cents; complete grammar, 35 cents; physiology and hygiene, 50 cents; history of United States, 50 cents; for elements of natural philosophy, 50 cents; for civil government, 40 cents; elementary algebra, 50 cents; physical geography, 80 cents; book-keeping, 40 cents; writing-book, 5 cents.

By comparing these prices with the prices we have heretofore paid for school books, we find that the average family of four children will save about \$3 a year on school books. Score a point for the anti-republican legislature.

Ought, And In Jail.

The two girls who took a recent drive to Larned with a handsome young stranger, the various ladies about town who subscribed for the "Standard Designer," and the livery man who also made a trip to Larned the next day after the girls drove up, can get a little satisfaction out of the fact that the smooth young confidence man who is responsible for a good many uncomplimentary remarks is now in jail at Garden City, charged with stealing a bicycle. He also worked the "Standard Designer" racket in that town. He gives the name of L. C. Armitage, he has a wife and two babies at Hutchinson and a rich father in New York. His just deserts will be a cell in the pen and a chance to dig coal for the state.

There is no charity in helping a man who will not help himself.

WHY IS THIS THUS?

An Old Soldier of the Union Ask Why A Brother Soldier Was Neglected.



THE following article written by a well known old soldier of this city, was published last week in the Beacon, and by request of the writer we reproduce it in the DEMOCRAT:

"No doubt the readers of this article will say that I am an old man whose sun is passing down the western horizon of life, whose step is not so buoyant as in days passed, whose locks have whitened with the weight of many wintry snows, and whose eyes are dimmed by time's swift gliding chariot; that I am behind the times, because my heart is stirred by the ingratitude of an organization that childish hands once pointed to with pride; that maiden voices once praised with song; that grown men once applauded with wild huzzas that seemed to reach the very gates of Paradise.

"Yet I wish to ask—yes more, I wish to bend my knees before the Great Army of the Republic and beg them to answer me truly, as they will one day answer before the Grand Master of the Universe, why have you smothered every flame of gratitude? Why have you buried every spring of love? Why have you entombed every sentiment of brotherly affection upon which you boast that this great order is based? Has time effaced from your minds the gloomy time of 'sixty? Have the months and years blotted from your memories the roaring of the cannon about Ft. Sumpter on the east and Island No. 10 on the west, Appomattox on the north and New Orleans on the south? Have you forgotten that valley of death, Libby Prison? Have you forgotten the groans of the living and ghastly upturned faces of the dead in Andersonville? Have you forgotten those nights of pain when we lay behind our earth works with no roof but the vault of heaven, no floor but the frozen sod?

"Why should you, in this state of ours in which our camp fires are burning almost the year around, neglect to attend the last sad rites of a brother soldier, Michael McCaffery? Was it for the reason that he did not belong to that sacred order of which you boast so much? He was carried to his last resting place without the presence of a single one of your lodge members except G. N. Moses and W. H. McGreevey to pay tribute to his memory. You open each meeting with a song and prayer to that great giver of all that is good. Do you think your prayers reached the gates of the Golden City on that evening that you neglected this sacred duty to a brother? Did Christ say as his eyes were glazing in death, as he was dying upon the cross: 'Today thou wilt be with me in Paradise if thou art a G. A. R.'? No, he said to all men—"To the least of these." He gave us a united brotherhood, the survivors of the rebellion united with links that should be stronger than any ritual or empty ceremony, and the words "Cain, where is thy brother?" should ring in the ear of every G. A. R. member of Great Bend until they partly atone for this display of heartlessness.

"And I believe that when the great world its last judgment awaits and the gates of the golden city are thrown back, when the sea gives forth her dead, and when all mysteries are cleared away and the long columns march silently to their reward or condemnation, then for the blood that has flown for the right, bright and beautiful will be their crowns and they will probably not bear the inscription "G. A. R." But beware that as you pose before the judgment bar, lest you hear the words from Jehovah's throne, "Cain, where is thy brother?"

LOUIS ZIMMERT.

Charlie Montgomery, of Claflin, was over to the county seat Monday. He does not think wheat has been injured much by the winter freezing.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Creed Rankin came in to visit the folks, the last of the week.

The ground hog days are past and gone. Thanks, awfully.

See the Great Bend Implement Co. for fresh garden seeds of all kinds.

Shelly Winget, of Albert, was doing business in the county seat Friday.

Jury cases were completed and the jury discharged on Friday afternoon.

Yesterday—the 17th—was St. Patrick's day. Did you plant any praties?

District court adjourned last Friday afternoon, until Wednesday of this week.

How about it? Have you registered? Or do you intend to vote at the spring election.

The Woodmen are finding new "timber" for their very excellent work every week.

Attorney Pettijohn and wife, of Garden City, were visiting with Judge Cole in this city last week.

Look out for chicken thieves. The editor's coop was "touched" one night last week for some fine black Langshan pullets.

Senator Armstrong's special fees and salaries bill for Barton county has been lost in the shuffle. Wonder who John will blame for it this time.

The Odd Fellows of the Great Bend lodge, of which deceased was a member took charge of the funeral ceremonies of the late Thomas White.

When in doubt, look in the DEMOCRAT. You will find what you want, in some of the advertisements of our enterprising business men.

An infant daughter of Andy Ruble, of the north part of town, aged about two months, died last Thursday and was buried at 2 p. m. Friday.

The best, and practically the only cabbage raised in Barton county last year was from seed bought at the Great Bend Implement Co.

Buy FRESH seeds and you will get good returns from them. Call on the Great Bend Implement Co. for all kinds of seeds—crop of 1896.

A regular little squaw winter—the last of the season it is to be hoped—struck us last Saturday. Quite a bit of snow fell in various localities.

A marriage license was issued on last Thursday, to William Hoffmeister and Miss Nell Charles, both of near Dubuque, in the north part of the county.

In almost every controversy, the man who knows he is on the right side can afford to keep cool and act conservatively, with the certainty of winning in the long run.

Capt. Norris, of Claflin, was over to the county seat Saturday. But we had not observed that he had any of that long promised "prosperity" concealed about his person.

The usual spring run-away items are appearing in the Claflin Banner. Claflin, without a weekly runaway, would be as dead as Larned without the daily horse-shoe games.

Curley Rucker and Lucius Miller, two colored lads about 20 years old, got in a scrap last Wednesday, wherein one used a knife and the other a pistol. Both came out unharmed, and got a police court fine.

The city high school had a "doings" Friday evening. Seems like a whole lot of time is spent each year in preparation for the spectacular part of the graduating exercises that might—by some at least—be profitably spent in their studies.

30 Cents, Cash, Paid for Corn

When fed with Old Process Linseed Cake ground, at present price of hogs and cattle. A good, thrifty lot of hogs will gain 2 to 2½ lbs per day, cattle 2½ to 4 lbs, and it will make an old horse feel young. It will keep calves from black-leg, and leave all animals fed in this way with a good appetite, smooth coat and well regulated system. Feed 1 part oil meal to 10 or 15 parts corn chop. For milch cows no other feed as good. For sale in any quantity, at the lowest prices. Car load lots a specialty. For sale by DICKSON & SHORE, Great Bend, Kans.

A WEIRD PROPHECY.

Some Terrible Things That are soon to Happen in the World.



IN THE New York Mercury we find the following curious prophecy: "Over forty years ago an old German hermit published in a Bavarian paper a curious prophecy. In it he foretold the Austro-Russian

and Franco-Russian wars, the death of Pope Pius and the Turko-Russian debate at arms. He said that Germany would have three emperors in one year before the end of the century, and indicated the death of two United States presidents by assassination. All these things have come to pass. In the same article he said that when the twentieth century opens great seismic disturbances will take place, which will cause the submersion of New York City and the western half of the city of Havannah. Cuba is to break in two, while Florida and Lower California are to suffer total extinction. The shock of these earthquakes will raze buildings to the ground in almost every city on the continent; millions of lives and billions of dollar's worth of property will be lost.

"There is to be a change in economic conditions of almost every civilized nation. He foretells the growth of a democratic spirit in England, which will result in a revolution that will overthrow the present form of government and make the government a republic. He says the ruler of England will be the best the country ever had and the first president of the new nation will be one of the royal family.

"Queen Victoria is by long odds the best ruler England ever had, and in a recent speech the Prince of Wales said that it is his desire to live to see England a republic. According to the hermit Russia, France and Italy will form an alliance, and will enter into war with Turkey. This war is to be the outgrowth of Turkish persecution of Christian subjects. The triple alliance will conquer the domain of the sick man of the east. At the expiration of the war complications will arise which will plunge Italy and France into war with Russia. The result will be the two countries will be gobbled up by the northern power and will cease to exist as independent nations. While war is being waged between them, the Pope will remove the seat of Catholicism from Rome to some town in southern Ireland.

"A rebellion will take place in the land of Shamrock, in which the country will become independent of England. Then a conflict will arise between the ultra Catholics of the South of Ireland and the ultra Protestants of the north, in which the southerners will be the victors. A kingdom will be established, and it is predicted that the reign of the first potestate will become historic for its tyranny.

"The prophet paints a dark future for the United States. He says at the close of the century a feeling of unrest will seize the people. This feeling will be the outgrowth of unequal social and economic conditions. He predicts that the twenty-fifth president will be the last executive head of the United States. During his administration the discontented masses will break into open rebellion, and the established form of government will be rent asunder, and for a year anarchy will prevail. When order shall be brought out of chaos, six republics will be formed with capitals at the following cities: San Francisco, Denver, New Orleans, St. Louis, Washington and Boston."

Street Commissioner Rush has been putting down a number of street crossings that have been much needed, down in the 4th ward.

Will the county board of examiners revoke the certificate of the Pawnee Rock school teacher because he could not prevent a Mr. Smith of that locality from using a horse-whip on him?